



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/766,130	01/28/2004	Thanassis Warsakis	1-25023	3147

4859 7590 10/15/2004

MACMILLAN SOBANSKI & TODD, LLC  
ONE MARITIME PLAZA FOURTH FLOOR  
720 WATER STREET  
TOLEDO, OH 43604-1619

EXAMINER

FRISTOE JR, JOHN K

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

3751

DATE MAILED: 10/15/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/766,130	<b>Applicant(s)</b> WARSAKIS, THANASSIS	
	<b>Examiner</b> John K. Fristoe Jr.	<b>Art Unit</b> 3754	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 31 August 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are pending in the application.  
4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 15-22 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 and 23 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 28 January 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Response to Arguments***

1. Applicant's arguments filed 8/31/2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Regarding claim 23, the examiner inadvertently overlooked this claim in the previous Office action, therefore this Office action is made non-final. Regarding Applicant's argument that Burtussek et al. does not teach manufacturing the inner component (26) and the outer component (12) from mutually different materials, the examiner disagrees. One of ordinary skill in the art could determine from the disclosure of Burtussek et al. that it is possible to manufacture the inner component from a plastic (col. 2, lines 62-65) and the outer component from a metal (col. 4, lines 11-13) or vice versa. Since metals and plastics inherently have different coefficients of thermal expansion, this combination would arrive at Applicant's claimed invention. Moreover, since the disclosure of Burtussek et al. is silent to the specific plastic or metal that the inner component and outer component are constructed from, the inner component and outer component could be made of two mutually different plastics or metals that have different coefficients of thermal expansion and would therefore react to heat in the same way as Applicant's claimed invention. Regarding Applicant's argument that the inner component does not plastically deform into the groove in the outer component of Burtussek et al., the examiner disagrees. The patentability of a product does not depend on its method of production. If the product in the product-by-process claim is the same as or obvious from a product in the prior art, the claim is unpatentable even though the prior product was made by a different process (see MPEP 2113).

***Specification***

2. The amendment to the specification is acknowledged by the examiner, however the amendment is incomplete. The headings "BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION", "BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS", "DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION", and "CLAIMS" need to be added to the specification as well. Appropriate correction is required.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 1-14 and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 6,244,295 (Bartussek et al.). Bartussek et al. disclose a composite component comprising an inner component (26) made of a plastic (col. 2, lines 62-66) with a first coefficient of thermal expansion, an outer component (12) made of metal (col. 4, lines 11-13) having a second lower coefficient of thermal expansion, an internal diameter enlargement that are surrounded by regions having smaller diameters (groove that houses rim 54 in fig. 4), wherein the inner component and the outer component are press fit (col. 3, lines 19-20) together as well as a positive engaged (col. 4, lines 53-60), wherein the outer component (12) is a valve body (fig. 2), an inner valve seat (18), a valve element (24), an elastic element (30), wherein the inner component (26) is a cage, wherein the internal diameter enlargement is a circumferential groove

Art Unit: 3754

(fig. 4), wherein the inner component has a continuous contour (54), wherein the outer component (12) is formed substantially cylindrical having an annular cross section (fig. 2), and wherein the inner component (26) is coaxial with the outer component (12).

Although the valve body does not start with a groove as claimed, the process of assembling the valve of Bartussek et al. results in the inner component being locked in the groove.

The patentability of a product does not depend on its method of production. If the product in the product-by-process claim is the same as or obvious from a product in the prior art, the claim is unpatentable even though the prior product was made by a different process (see MPEP 2113).

***Allowable Subject Matter***

5. Claims 15-22 are allowed.

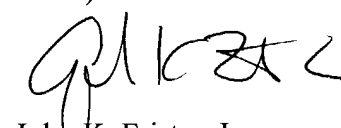
6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John K. Fristoe Jr. whose telephone number is (703) 308-1437.

The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 7: 00 a.m-4: 30 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Louis G. Mancene can be reached on (703) 308-2696. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 3754

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



John K. Fristoe Jr.  
Examiner  
Art Unit 3754

JKF



EDWARD K. LOOK  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3700

10/13/04